

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are effected to more particularly point out and distinctly define the subject of this invention.

I. Claim Status and Amendment

Claims 6, 10, 12 and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation or a divisional application on any cancelled subject matter.

Claim 8 has been amended to recite "an isolated mouse gene" instead of "a mouse gene" and to remove the dependency on non-elected claim 7. Support for these changes can be found in original claims 7 and 8.

Claim 9 has been amended to depend on claim 8, instead of non-elected claim 7. Support for this change can be found in the claims as originally filed.

Therefore, no new matter has been added by this amendment.

Claims 7-9 and 11 are now pending in this application.

II. Response to Restriction

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated June 7, 2004, Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group III, claims 8-11 and 13, drawn to mouse DNA encoding the mouse protein mAMSH.

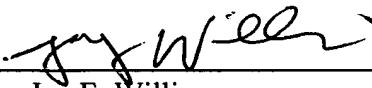
Applicants respectfully request that the mouse protein mAMSH (claim 7) of Group II be examined along with the invention of Group III, i.e., the mouse DNA encoding the protein. It would not be an undue burden to search both the protein and the DNA encoding the protein. In this regard, Applicants note that the human AMSH protein and the DNA encoding it were examined together in related application Serial No. 09/831,452.

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Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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